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Last year's Don Smith Memorial Bird Walk offered spectacular sightings of spring birds with naturalist and bird expert Ed Poropat on the May Long Weekend. The bird walk will take place on Saturday, May 18 at 6:30 a.m. this year. Visit www.haliburtonlandtrust.ca/civicrm/event/info/?reset=1&id=101 to register. /TIM YANO Special to *County Life*

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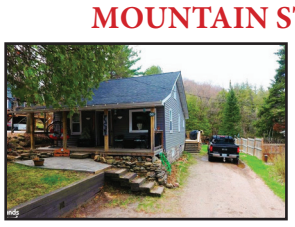

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Tourism Tales from *My Haliburton Highlands*

With our short winter now behind us, we can officially welcome spring in the Haliburton Highlands! It has been a busy couple of months for the tourism department, and there is much to get excited about as we look ahead to the summer months. With the May long weekend quickly approaching, I am sure you are all gearing up for the busiest time of the year and looking forward to many incredible events, festivals, outdoor adventure and more.

ANGELICA INGRAM
Tourism Tales

Coming up on June 6, The County of Haliburton in partnership with the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs (OMAFRA), and the Rural Ontario Municipal Association (ROMA) are hosting a Teeny Tiny Summit. This event is your chance to learn from expert volunteers and active community leaders and network with like-minded individuals who share a passion for Teeny Tiny places.

Whether you are a community leader, a rural volunteer, a community economic developer or an entrepreneur, the Teeny Tiny Summit is right for you. Teeny Tiny Summits were started in 2016 as a forum to discuss scale-appropriate economic development strategies for Ontario's smallest communities. Since that time over 2,750 have participated from across Ontario. Teeny Tiny Summits share practical examples, lessons learned and community economic development tactics that are scale appropriate for Ontario's smallest communities.

The event on June 6 will take place at the Minden Community Centre and feature keynote speaker Peter Kenyon talking about What Builds Great Communities. Local organizations and guest speakers will also take part. The event runs from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. and will include lunch and refreshments. To register for the Teeny Tiny Summit, visit myhaliburtonhighlands.com/doing-business/teeny-tiny-summit-minden.

Another exciting celebration happening this year is the 150th anniversary of the incorporation of the County of Haliburton. To mark this momentous milestone, the tourism department will be working in partnership with other organizations and businesses to plan celebrations and events. Keep your eyes open for historic displays, activities, programming and more.

May marks the sweet season of apple blossoms in My Haliburton Highlands and the Apple Tree Identification Project (ATIP) is hosting the second annual self-guided Apple Blossoms Tour and the inaugural All About Apple Tree Symposium on May 16-17 at the Haliburton Legion. We have many local tourism businesses participating by offering apple themed goodies and more. If you are interested in attending the apple themed events or in savouring some apple dishes, find out everything you need to know about this initiative by visiting: myhaliburtonhighlands.com/apple-blossom-tour.

As always, we are open to hearing from you about what you have going on. Never hesitate to drop us an email at info@haliburtonhighlands.com or give us a call at 1-800-461-7677. And be sure to check out myhaliburtonhighlands.com for our calendar of events filled with information about what is happening in our beautiful county. You can also follow us on social media by searching My Haliburton Highlands.

I hope you all are filled with excitement and enthusiasm for another successful season in the county and are ready to welcome our visitors and seasonal residents with a smile.

Happy spring!

County Life

The following inserts are being distributed with County Life this week:

Foodland *
Haliburton Highland Real Estate
Haliburton Timber Mart *
Home and Cottage *
Home Hardware *
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All inserts are to selected distribution areas.

For information on how your flyer can be inserted each week in County Life please contact Melissa Armstrong at **613-332-2002** or **melissa@haliburtonpress.com**

Spring into summer

2023 MONTEREY M20

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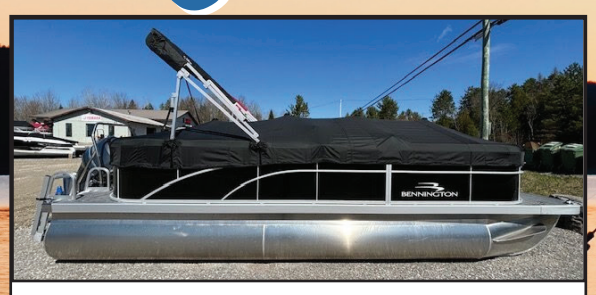

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The allure of small lakes

STEVE GALEA
Special to *County Life*

Fishing on Red Pine Lake. /Photo by Jenn Watt

Haliburton is blessed with its fair share of big scenic lakes and nice rivers for anglers to enjoy. Yet, every now and then, I believe it pays off to seek the tranquility and solitude associated with our smaller, lesser-known lakes. I'm talking about the kind more suited to canoes than powerboats – the ones without boat ramps, just off the beaten path.

Sometimes, these lakes dwell in your mind after they are first discovered as small blue features on a map you idly study. Other times they are generous gifts from other anglers – waters whose names are spoken in hushed, conspiratorial tones.

No matter how they get there, once they settle in an angler's mind, they must eventually be visited, like items off a bucket list that only an angler could understand.

I happen to spend a lot of my time on lakes like these – and though the fishing is often surprisingly good due to lack of angling pressure, what I really like about them is the solitude they reward you with.

Last week, a friend and I spent the lion's share of a nice day on a small lake that held brook trout. And while the fishing wasn't hot and heavy, the potential for it was. I landed a solid 15-inch, pink fleshed dinner fish, and we saw one that was even bigger as we were beaching our canoe.

Better still, we had the lake to ourselves.

It was a scenic lake where wood ducks loafed. And though access to it wasn't easy, it wasn't ridiculous either. One beaver dam served as the gate – and once you crossed that, the place was all yours.

There are scores of lakes like this in the County – and getting to them is often a little adventure. Yet each is prepared to cough up a memory or two and enough allure to keep you dreaming about next time.

Aside from the fishing, some provide wonderful wildlife viewing experiences too. In lakes like these, anglers see deer at the water's edge, moose in the shallows and sometimes bears meandering along the far shore. Then there are the usual cast of characters, the waterfowl, the herons, the osprey, mink, beaver, and otter. If you conduct yourself correctly, you'll fit right in.

Waters like this, far from the drone of motors and the whine of the jet skis that more accessible lakes endure, allow you to think, slow down, and envision what the County must have been like before the trappings of civilization crept in.

I think it's fair to say that places like these, where there are more beaver lodges than cottages, are good for the soul.

Visiting one or two of these gems every year, will give you new things to look forward to next spring, and sometimes enough fish to make you smile.

And, if everything goes just right, you might even find yourself whispering the location to another angler in hushed, conspiratorial tones.

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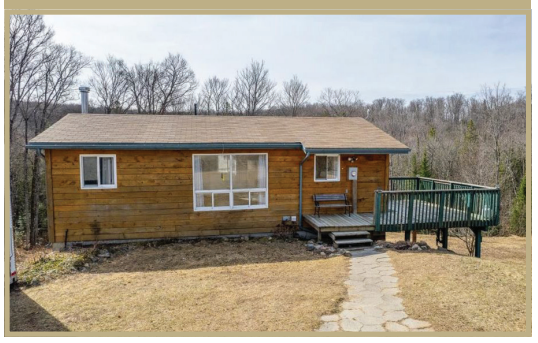

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Nature's Sketchbook by David Alexander Risk

Sketches in Nature's Sketchbook are created by David Alexander Risk, a renowned local artist dedicated to sharing his love for nature and inspiring young residents and visitors to learn more about the natural world of the Haliburton Highlands.

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Send your letters to the editor to vivian@haliburtonpress.com. Letters must be signed and include a phone number.

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It's cottage season

KATE BUTLER
Special to *County Life*

THE 24TH of May weekend is upon us, so I'd like to send a very special "Welcome Back!" to cottagers and seasonal residents who may be returning to the Highlands for the first time in several months. Victoria Day has long been seen as the unofficial kick-off to summer in many parts of Canada, but it was only in the early 1950s that the holiday became movable, taking place on the last Monday before May 25 each year and thus ensuring that many received a long weekend. Prior to that, it had actually been a standalone holiday which took place each year on Queen Victoria's actual birthday – May 24 – which explains why to this day Canadians have those conversations which are so confusing to people from pretty much anywhere else in the world about when the 24th of May is.

The change to a long weekend was a lucky one for anyone who had plans to open a cottage for the summer season, but the history of cottaging in the Highlands has its roots much further back in our local history and for many, it actual began with stays at Haliburton County's lodges and resorts. Guests would visit the same lodge or resort for the same couple of weeks each summer, often developing relationships with those who ran the resorts that felt more like family than anything else. Guests would often come up the area by rail, being picked up by their hosts at the nearest station to the resort. Over time, many families fell in love with the area, and wanting to spend more time here, then purchased cottages.

Some people would say that opening a cottage for the summer is not for the feint of heart. While more and more people have chosen to winterize their cottages and make them available for all- season use, there are still many three season cottages in the Highlands. A trip up to cottage country from the city brings with it all kinds of excitement, especially that first trip of the year. Landmarks enroute mark the journey as well as any GPS can, and I know that for many people, there's one spot that's their sign that they've almost arrived. In the 1950s, for many families, it was the "Welcome to the Highlands of Haliburton" sign adorned with a large moose on Highway 35 at the entrance to the County. For others, it might be the giant rock cut by Miners' Bay or the stop at one of the local shops to pick up the last of the provisions (and a few treats) for the visit.

The first weekend back at the cottage can bring a little trepidation as well as excitement. Has the building shifted on its piers? Does that mean that the back door now opens smoothly, but the front door is the one that sticks? Is the water too cold for a dip in the lake? If you're putting in a dock, you may be going for a dip whether you want one or not! How much property clean-up needs to be done – and how bad will the blackflies be? Opening up a cottage can feel like all work and no play, but it's also a time to connect with memories and to enjoy the continuity that a cottage can bring. If you're opening a cottage this weekend, I hope you'll also remember to take time to slow down and enjoy your surroundings, because as we can all agree, the Highlands are a magical place! Happy Long Weekend everyone!

Top 10 imaginary bands and possible first albums

I have exactly zero musical ability. But I really think I'd be good at managing a band.

STEVE GALEA
Humour Columnist

With that in mind here are the top 10 imaginary bands I'd like to manage with the name of their unreleased first album.

1. The Angry Zits, Squeeze me!
2. Chickens Crossing, Don't Ask Why?
3. Warzone Turtles, Shell Shocked!
4. Boeing 787, When one door opens.
5. The Bears, Where else but the woods?
6. The Failed EVs, Short chords and long distances!
7. The Interrupters, Excuse me for a second.
8. Constipation Nation, Unplugged at last.
9. The Camels, Waiting for Hump Day!
10. The Street Sweepers, Broom to move!

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Companions

Wind, dimpling the steel sheet of Lake, waking beneath a stone Sky,
water, slurping pebbles, nestled on the shore, as I sit on the shoulders of a boulder, listening to wavelets lick the sand,
the sound lapping in my ears, as I slap the boulder, my quiet companion, Good Morning, inhaling Wind, exhaling worry,
as I watch a flurry of feathers flap through Air, wondering where the flock of seagulls is flying to,
before they land on the opposite shore, flecks of white, littering the sand,
these birds that never leave the place they know, surviving Snow and storm,
sharing Air and water with geese and ducks when they return, the Lake, bathing my bleary eyes,
as they watch a pair of ducks, a mallard and its mate, skirting the edge of the Lake,
bobbing along the wavelets,
one behind the other, leaving the rest of the ducks behind, the two pairs of webbed feet,
paddling beneath the surface,
journeying alone, together, around the Lake, floating towards an alcove, where they perform their morning ablutions,
the mallard's emerald collar, gleaming in the light, as sunbeams slide through cracks in the clouds,
the pair of ducks, preening and pirouetting as they plunge underwater, their feet, twirling in unison,
as I grin at their dance from my perch on the boulder, marveling at how in sync the pair of ducks are,
surfacing at the very same moment, before they continue bobbing along the wavelets,
veering towards the shore,
where they waddle onto the sand, resting their wings amongst the pebbles and stray feathers left behind by other birds,
the lapping of water against the rocks, the squawking of seagulls up in Sky, lulling me into reverie,
as I drink in the hills, fringing the Lake on the other side, their presence, solid as the boulder on which I rest,
always here, to offer an ear, to my murmuring thoughts that lap against the shore of my mind,
stilling them for a little while, as I soak in the harmony of hills and Lake and Sky,
cloaked in my solitude atop the boulder,
gawking up at the mallard, flying through Air, leaving his grey feathered mate behind on the shore,
wondering whether he'll return, the pair of ducks, reunited minutes later, as he lands back on the sand,
and they rest alongside one another, feather to feather, on the shore,
tethered to one another by an invisible thread of Breath, their quiet camaraderie, cracking,
as a raft of ducks paddles onto the shore, their quacking, piercing Air, and I lose sight of the solitary pair,
swallowed by the flurry of feathers that surrounds them.

Sylvie Kalenda

Snowdon Park - The beauty of change

THERE IS something about the change of seasons that has an unsettling feeling. Spring brings much anticipation for the appearance of new shoots, vibrant colours and a kind of awakening that jostles the soul. The very idea of change can also conjure up fleeting feelings of nostalgia - the realization that time has passed and once again we leave behind another marker on the continuum.

KAREN PHIPPS
Walter & Me

As we meander through the seasons, we come to realize that change is indeed the only constant, it is the river we paddle that carries us forward. The change of seasons can also be a reflective time as we begin to conjure up images of the previous season and start to dream about the one that lies ahead. Each new season means we have had another whirl around the sun, and we face it with new experience and hopefully greater wisdom.

As Walter and I embark on our second spring together, I can't help but compare it to last year and think of all the changes, experiences and growth we have shared. We both changed, altered our sense of self and like a Venn diagram, our circles began to overlap so the part in the middle grew.

I've had several people comment recently on how well Walter is doing. This is of course in contrast to his spun-out-of-control behaviour of earlier times. He can now occasionally wait patiently and relatively quietly, as I engage in brief conversations with fellow walkers/hikers. I have also noticed other thoughtful-like changes such as how he politely lifts the appropriate paw for me when I put on his harness. And I may be reading too much into this one, but when he pulls me through the underbrush and I have a tumble or cry out as a twig scratches my skin, Walter has taken to scampering back towards me to give me a look I like to think of as concern (by next season I am hoping to diminish the tours through the underbrush).

While Walter has changed, he has also changed me. While his very presence has forced me to alter my schedule, rearrange my furniture, and give up on the idea of ever having lovely bed linen and dirt free furniture, he has also changed me in ways that seem subtle and yet poignant. I see hours in the day that I have not truly seen or felt in years. Our early morning and late night walks are filled with quiet reflective time where we feel we are alone in our space. I notice what time the birds wake up and how full the sky is with stars. I notice the calming darkness of a rainy morning and the gentleness of the morning sun.

While these things all existed pre-Walter, they were not a regular part of my being. It reminds me that a leap of faith for the right reasons, even when it is impractical, complicated and messy, may be what brings a deeper meaning to life.

This week, we ventured to Snowdon Park which is located just off County Road 1 past South Lake Road. It is the largest park in Minden Hills consisting of 460 acres of relatively flat trails that are ideal for all ages. It really is a perfect place for a family stroll as there is ample parking, washrooms, well marked trails and a variety of changing landscapes.

There are also some fun reminders of days gone by. Remnants of old farming equipment and a derelict 1971 Lincoln that seems completely incongruent with its surroundings. You can almost hear Three Dog Night belting out *Joy to the World* from the speakers. How it ever ended up in that spot seems to be a bit of a mystery.

Right now, the Park is full of changes as the ferns are unfurling, the canopy is filling in and the wetlands are fully animated. It's a bustle of activity, like everything is getting ready for the big prom of summer.

While seasonal change can be unsettling it is also a gift - a fresh start, a new beginning and a reminder of times past. When walking through Snowdon Park on a spring day, you cannot help but notice the changes that are occurring all around - the movement, the growth, the life force that is surging through. Seasons mark beginnings and endings and feelings around these transitions can be tricky, but they also remind us of the journey we are on. This is a time that is right in front of us, a time to notice, value and marvel at all the fleeting changes, as we know this too shall pass.

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RICK WHITTEKER
Special to *County Life*

The gravel road winds, crests and dips giving me the impression that I am on route to an adventure. It also feels like it is the right way to arrive to a place where the rhythm of nature carries on with minimal impact from human activity.

The destination is Lochlin Lake, located about 4.5 kilometers from Donald. To get there, turn onto Koshlong Lake Road off Gelert Road and travel 1.5 km to Universal Road, turn right and follow it for 3.5 km until the road ends. Several giant white pines tower over the boat launch area, a common sight on the coniferous clad shoreline surrounding this attractive lake.

"No camping" signs speak people hoping for drive-up campsite at the launch, however, the rest of the lake has several camp sites and numerous classic Canadian Shield flat, rocky points: a haven for day trippers looking for a place to picnic. Clad with hues of red and green moss with patches of gritty lichen, these rocky sites are both picturesque and practical, as the shorelines are shallow and swim friendly.

A small lake with bays and inlets, paddling the perimeter could take less than an hour if you can resist stopping regularly to take it all in. Camp Northern Lights has a short piece of shoreline as do two private cabins, leaving plenty of natural shoreline to explore. Although you may hear the thrum of power boats on Koshlong Lake over the horizon, on this quiet spring morning the biggest wake on Locklin Lake is coming from a pair of mallards moving across the placid surface.

Rocky shoreline on Lochlin Lake. /RICK WHITTEKER Special to County Life

On my perimeter paddle I drifted over a boneyard of debarked, pale branches glimmering in the shoreline shallows. With little beaver lodge nearby, I am reminded not to judge a beaver by its lodge as emerging from the placid water surface is a massive flat head, followed by an arching long, rotund body trailed by a huge, scaly tail. With a grainy photo and the morning mist, this could be a modern version of the Locklinness monster!

A Yellow-Rumped Warbler.County Life

The ensuing tail slap broke the spell of the morning calm, the loud clapping sound that reverberated around the lake would be the envy of any concert performer! Trailing me like private eye, I gladly moved on to quieter waters

see page 9

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Naturally Yours

from page 8

amazed at the defensive drama of this ornery rodent.

For the entire paddle, I am continuously accompanied by the twittering of birdsong. Usually a low-tech guy, I find the phone app called Merlin very enticing. This birding app can identify bird song with a simple screen tap, as the cellphone microphone is sensitive enough to record even very quiet songs. The app transcribes these songs into a spectrograph of sound across the top of the screen. Magically (hence the name Merlin, I suspect), a list of four or five of the most probable birds appears, demystifying the indiscernible twittering. Each time the bird sings or calls, its name is highlighted.

To get a knowledgeable opinion on the app, I contacted our local bird expert, Ed Poropat. Ed feels the app is fabulous with some limitations. Ed estimates the app is ninety plus percent accurate, "so it is really good, especially for people thinking, "Hey....I wonder what that beautiful singer is outside my window?" For people with hearing challenges, the high-pitched songs that can't be detected by ear, will be picked up by the app, "allowing the observer to stop and look for the bird."

One limitation that Ed pointed out is the occasional "report of an outlandish species in local yards or neighbourhoods." It is not always accurate and Ed will track down the bird for visual confirmation with any species identification that is rare or different.

On most the occasions that I used the app, the spunky song of the yellow-rumped warbler was recorded. This warbler has blotches of yellow feathers on its crown, chest, wings and, yes, rump. Otherwise, a mix of charcoal grey, white and black, its dazzling spring plumage is on full display when this warbler flies from outer tree branches to catch insects.

As I paddle clockwise around the lake, there is a long, narrow island on the east side worth exploring. This island has a flat rock point at one end and stunted white pines running along its length. One pine must have lost its terminal leader causing the branches below to fan out and up like an upside-down umbrella. A pair of ospreys have made a nest there, taking advantage of what nature offers.

Out of respect for the alarm calls from the bird on the nest, I moved closer to the mainland shore where a second Osprey flew over me, a large stick in its talons. Osprey will return to the same nest every year and, with annual upgrades, nests can end up weighting up to three hundred kilograms! Clutches of eggs are commonly laid in April or May. These fish masters will need to work overtime as the chicks will need enough food to double their weight every week.

Paddling back to the landing, it struck me how fortunate we are in Haliburton County to have these peaceful places to visit. So, I encourage you to find a peaceful haven in your area, like Lochlin Lake, and paddle, hike or just sit and enjoy the natural rhythms of nature.

The drive in to Lochlin Lake offers views of towering pines.

Benjamin Moore

Cordell Carpet

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Writing on the Senior Side

Smiling on the patio

GAIL STELTER
Special to *County Life*

Person A: "You have the best seat in the house."
Me: "Yes, it's working well."
A few minutes later.
Person B: "How's the service?"
Me: "I'm waiting for someone to bring me a margarita."
Person B laughs, and we wish each other a good day.
A few minutes later.
Person C: "You've got the right idea."
Me: "Thanks."
Person D, who is accompanying Person C: "If you sit in it you have to buy it."
Me: No, that's not happening. I am promoting it well though."

More smiles and laughter.
At one point, I had been looking at my cell phone. I put it away. Here's to authentic conversation, albeit brief, with happy seniors.
A few minutes later.
Person E: "You have the best seat in the house."
Me: "Yes, so I've been told."
A few minutes later.
Person F: "What a great idea."
Me: "It's perfect and comfortable too. I am waiting for my margarita."
Person F: "Even better. Enjoy your day."
Me: "Thanks, I will."
There were more of these friendly "persons" and they made my day.
Peter: "Oh here you are. Looks like you've been having fun."
Me: "Yes, I have." I went on to tell him about the lovely people I have chatted with.

Person G had been listening and joined our conversation: "That's great. Have a wonderful day."
Peter is not surprised. He laughs.
Where was I? I was sitting at a very nice patio set in the grocery section of a big box store in Bracebridge. We had completed our errands, and before heading out to lunch, we stopped in to pick up a few things. I am not much of a shopper. I usually choose a few items and go to the car while the expert shopper does the rest. The patio set looked so inviting, so I sat down and that's when the fun began. So many smiles, so many good wishes and chuckles. There were lots of other people who walked by me, but it was the seniors who stopped to smile and chat. The others were in a hurry. You know, the hurry of not enough hours in the day, work be done, kids to look after. I had lived that life and understood this was just one stop on their busy day.
So here's my senior side brainwave. All grocery stores could have a comfortable patio set ready for

see page 11

Writing on the Senior Side

from page 10

seniors to enjoy a short rest. Shopping is tiring and, for some of us with arthritis and other afflictions, a brief pause is all we need to regroup to move on. Realistically, I suppose grocery store management and owners are not interested in catering to seniors this way and with the current grocery prices, they don't need to. Nevertheless, this would be something easy to do. I am convinced it would encourage chatting, spread smiles and be a wonderful addition to grocery stores, I think it is worth the effort.

And just for fun, one more shopping brainwave. So many of the seniors I spoke to at the store were shopping alone, and I wondered if they found that difficult. They may have wanted to go to the store and select their items but perhaps they would have liked to have an assistant shopper to help them. Who might these assistants be? How about the fourteen-year-old kids who want their first part-time job and for whom a few hours a week would be a great start? On selected advertised days, the teen assistant would accompany a senior. They might reach the items on the top shelves or locate the easy brand-name products such as milk, ketchup, dill pickles, etc. Of course, not all seniors would want or need this assistance, but for those who do it would brighten their day and lighten their load. It would be especially helpful to seniors who are disabled or have mobility issues. It would be a welcome conversation for those who live alone and may feel isolated. We can all benefit from a little unencumbered company and conversation.

Once again, realistically, I don't expect this to happen. Brainwaves are often like that: great ideas off the top of your head that seem quite brilliant at the time, but you know you can't bring to fruition.

Well, alrighty then, how about a brainwave that I can carry out?

When I was sitting on the patio chair and people glanced at me as they passed, I immediately flashed them a smile. They smiled back. When we smile our brain thinks we are happy and happy people are healthier people who live longer. So smile. You say you don't feel like smiling. No worries, fake it until you make it. Smile when you don't feel like smiling, and you will trick your brain. Your brain thinks you are happy and so do the people you smile at and pretty soon… well you know what happens… you feel happy. So the last brainwave to emerge from my patio chair experience is simple: smile more. Smile at everyone you meet, even when you see that they think you are a little strange. At this point in your senior life being perceived as being a little strange is a good thing. There's a certain inner frivolity and laughter at having people think you may be an unusual or even a crazy old person.

I have renewed my practice of smiling at seniors. Smiling is contagious in a good way. Say hello or have a great day. If you are not sure about this, you can start slow. Go and sit on a bench at a park or on a main street in town. If you are like me, you will prefer the patio chairs at the grocery store.

Through my grocery store patio experience, I realized that since I have been hiding away at home writing my stories, I have missed meeting new people and the little occurrences that keep me smiling. Hanging out at the grocery store patio was delightful. I hope you give it a try and that you have as much fun as I did.

Finding the fun in our senior lives is always worth the effort.

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Legion Events

Branch 129 Haliburton

Mondays: Bridge every Monday, 1 p.m. Schofield Rm.
Tuesdays: League darts starting at 7 p.m. Haliburton Army Cadets practice 6:30 to 9 p.m. (Sept to June)
Wednesdays: Bid Euchre 1 p.m. start – Main Hall. Bingo doors open at 6 p.m. Bingo starts at 7 p.m. First Wed of each month - $1000 jackpot, rest will be a $500 jackpot. Follow Facebook.com/Branch129 Bingo for the most up-to-date information
Thursdays: General Meeting third Thursday of the month, starting at 6:30 p.m. All members urged to attend. Ladies Auxiliary last Thursday of the month at 1 p.m.
Fridays: Meat draw has five draws, five prizes each draw, first draw at 4:30 p.m., last draw at 6:30 p.m. Tickets are $2 per draw. Ed Pickard, MC.
Friday fun darts from 4:30 p.m. and onwards.
Saturdays: 50/50 Draw 4 p.m. draw – tickets are $1 each available in the Clubroom.
Whether you're planning a function for 10 or 200, for more information call Cheryl Waller at 905-447-7741, email haliburtonlegionrentals@gmail.com or visit haliburtonlegion.com. Come on out and support Haliburton Legion Branch 129 ... everyone is welcome!
Club room hours: Mon. 3 to 6 p.m., Tues. 3 to 9 p.m., Wed/Thurs. 3 to 6 p.m. Fri. 3 to 7 p.m. and Sat. 3 to 6 p.m.

Branch 636 Minden

Lunch - Monday to Friday
Monday: Rug Hookers every second week. Bid Euchre 1 to 3 p.m.
Tuesday: Food 5 p.m. Canoe FM Bingo 6 p.m.
Thursday: Cribbage 1 to 3 p.m., Darts 7 to 9 p.m. and Euchre 7 to 9 p.m.
Every other Friday: Karaoke 8 to 11 p.m.
Friday Fish & Chips & Wings. Lunch 11a.m. to 2 p.m. and Dinner 4 to 7 p.m.
Saturday All Day Breakfast 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. with three Meat draws at 11 a.m.
Call ahead any day for take-out: 705-286-4541
Hosting free presentations for seniors on from 1 to 2:30 p.m.
May 26 - Fire Department
Schedules are subject to change without notice. Check our Facebook page Minden Legion Branch 636 for more info.

Branch 624 Wilberforce

May 16 - 2 to 6 p.m.
May 17 - 2 to 9 p.m. Fish/Chips 5 to 8 p.m.
May 18 - 2 p.m. to 12 a.m. House League Darts Open 2 to 6 p.m. Meat Draw 3 p.m. KARAOKE - 8 p.m. to 12 a.m. with Dan Coghlan
May 19 to 21 - Closed
May 22 - Open 2 to 6 p.m. Darts 2 p.m.
Upcoming Event: Rick Rowe Memorial Horseshoe Tournament. Registration 10 to -10:30 a.m. Start 11 a.m. $20/player. Music on the deck by ½ Tuned, Food for purchase. Prizes for 1st, 2nd and 3rd n
If you are planning an event our Ladies Auxiliary would be pleased to cater. Please call the branch at 705-448-2221 to arrange your event.

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Honey Hoedown

Griffin McGill performs during the Wild Honey Hoedown, a fundraising concert for the Johnny Burke Foundation held at the Haliburton Legion on Sunday, April 28. /TIM YANO Special to *County LIife*

Cori Coulas plays for the crowd.

Naomi Bristow sings, encouraging attendees to get up and dance.

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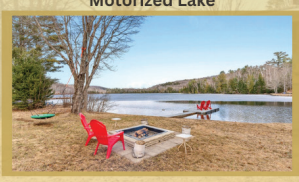

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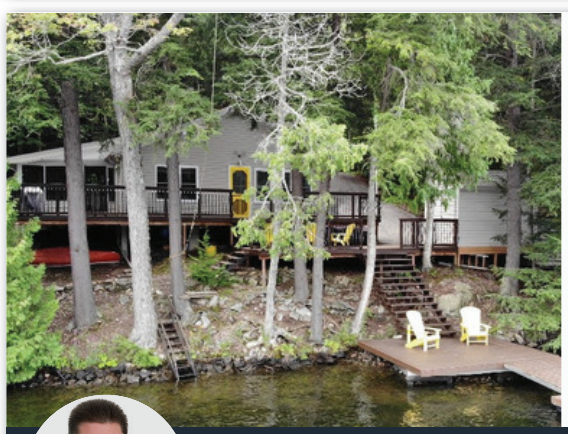

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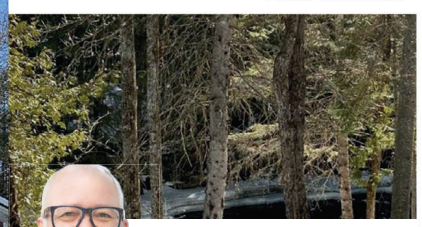

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This year's Bookapalooza will take place on Saturday, July 13 at the Minden Community Centre. /FILE

Linwood Barclay headlines Bookapalooza

The international best-selling author Linwood Barclay headlines this year's Bookapalooza, on Saturday, July 13 at the Minden Community Center. Tickets are on sale now here store6976190.ecwid.com/Bookapalooza-c149978265.

Bookapalooza celebrates the rich literary life of the Highlands, giving readers a chance to meet dozens of local authors. It's an experience you can't find anywhere else and a book lover's dream! The event is generously sponsored by Parker Pad and Printing.

Linwood Barclay's best-selling thrillers include Broken Promise, The Lie Maker, and his new release, I Will Ruin You. He's also the author of two thrillers for younger readers, Chase and Escape. He has more than seven million copies in print. Winners of the guess the author contest are Sarah from Toronto and Victoria from Haliburton.

Bookapalooza begins at noon with an exhibit hall filled with dozens of local authors. Admission to the exhibit hall is free. Want to become an exhibitor? Register here www.haliburtonarts.on.ca/vendor.

A Conversation with Linwood Barclay happens at 3 p.m., followed by a book signing. Early bird tickets (until July 1) are $25. Children under 13 are free when accompanied by an adult.

The Dominion Hotel, Minden, is sponsoring a special Reception and Dinner with Linwood Barclay at 6pm. This will give readers and fans an opportunity for a more intimate encounter with the author. Early bird tickets are $60, or $75 for the two tickets (Conversation and Dinner) combined.

Submitted

Community Events

Send your event listing to classifieds@haliburtonpress.com

Scottish Country Dancing

When: Wednesdays, 7:30 to 9 p.m.
Where: Haliburton United Church, 10 George St.
Join us for a multigenerational, lively, rockin' good time! You don't have to be Scottish to enjoy Scottish Country Dancing. Beginners are always welcome, no partner required. Please bring soft soled indoor shoes. Please RSVP to haliburtonscottishcountrydance@gmail.com by Tuesday evening. $5 per person, per evening.

Community Yard Sale Registration

When: now until spots are filled
Where: 20 George Street, Haliburton
Spaces are now available to rent for the community yard sale taking place on Saturday July 13, Hosted by North Entrance Masonic Lodge. Rent a space, bring your table, and sell your stuff! Rentals begin at $15. Book early - spots are limited. For more info or to book your spot contact Rob Parish at 705-935-1921 or robparish707@yahoo.ca

Don Smith Memorial Bird Walk

When: Saturday May 18, 6:30 a.m.
Where: Haliburton Rail Trail, 7286 Gelert Road
Join bird expert Ed Poropat to discover which birds are returning to Haliburton County and can be seen and/or heard along the rail trail. A wonderful way to start your day! Meet at the rail trail parking area. Dress for the weather and possibly for bugs. Pre-registration required at www.haliburtonlandtrust.ca. Contact 705-457-3700.

Friends of the HCPL - Mega Book Sale

When: Saturday, May 18, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Where: Minden Hills Branch, Haliburton County Public Library
Books will be available in the Book Nook and the Fireplace Area. We will have a huge selection of gently read books in a wide assortment of genres. Payment is by cash or cheque donation. All money raised by the Friends of the Haliburton County Public Library supports library enhancements and programs in all branches in Haliburton County.

The Spirit of Patsy Cline - Starring Christina Hutt

When: Saturday May 25, 7:30 pm
Where: The Royal Canadian Legion - Branch 129 - Haliburton
As Patsy Cline, Christina brings the original era of the music to life. Engaging the audience with intimate reflections of lost love and those who have passed on, the haunting beauty is resurrected with the help of a five-piece band. Visit www.haliburtonfolk.com for more information.

Community Garden Workshop

When: May 26, 10 am
Where: MCFC Community Gardens, Minden Fairgrounds
The County Master Gardeners will demonstrate transplanting techniques for those who have taken plots in the MCFC Community Gardens for 2024. Members of the community are also invited to attend and participate in a seedling exchange.

Dementia Care Conference

When: June 3, 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Where: Pinestone Resort, 4252 County Rd. 21
'Affirming and Optimizing Life for Those Living With Dementia in Rural Canada.' An exciting line-up of international and local presenters will share exciting and innovative approaches to rural care. Registration begins at 8:30 am. Lunch is provided, no cost to attend. Register by May 22 on our ATAC Facebook page or email agingtogtherhc@gmail.com. Sponsored by McMaster University, Professor Sharon Kassalainen's research, and Aging Together as Community.

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Nature in your backyard

County Life welcomes photo submissions depicting life in the Highlands. Email vivian@ haliburtonpress.com. Please ensure images are high resolution - 200 dpi, 10 inches at its longest edge.

A beaver slaps its tail. /Submitted by Tammy Nash

A painted turtle reflects in the water. /Submitted by Tammy Nash

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Above, a hummingbird at the feeder. /Submitted by Jill Moulton

Left, a curious black bear. /Submitted by Tammy Nash

Composting

Composting is a simple way to reduce the amount of waste you dispose of.

Dysart sells two composting units: Composters ($57 flat fee), and Digesters ($124 flat fee), that can be purchased at the Haliburton Landfill, 222 Industrial Park Road, Haliburton, during regular operating hours.

Composter

Composters use air, moisture and the layering of different materials to aid decomposition and create nutrient rich soil as a finished product.

50% "green" materials

- Raw fruit and vegetables
- Coffee grounds and filters, tea bags
- Egg shells
- Fresh (green) yard clippings, plants, leaves

50% "brown" materials

- Dry leaves and plants
- Dry sticks (broken up)
- Hair and fur

Add materials, alternating between "green" and "brown" layers.

Turn the pile with a shovel to add air.

The pile should be as damp as a wrung-out sponge.

Digester

Digesters promote decomposition without air. Micro-organisms breakdown organic waste and it leaches into the ground, feeding plants that surround it. Digesters are considered more bear-proof.

- Cooked food
- Baked goods
- Coffee grounds and filters, tea bags
- Dairy
- Eggs and egg shells
- Green yard clippings, plants, leaves
- Meat and bones
- Raw fruit and vegetables

Place the digester over a 1 meter (3 foot) hole. Install the digester and then start adding kitchen waste.

Limit meat/bone/fish for the first four to six weeks until the digester is established.

Digesters do NOT produce compost/humus.

Municipality of Dysart et al

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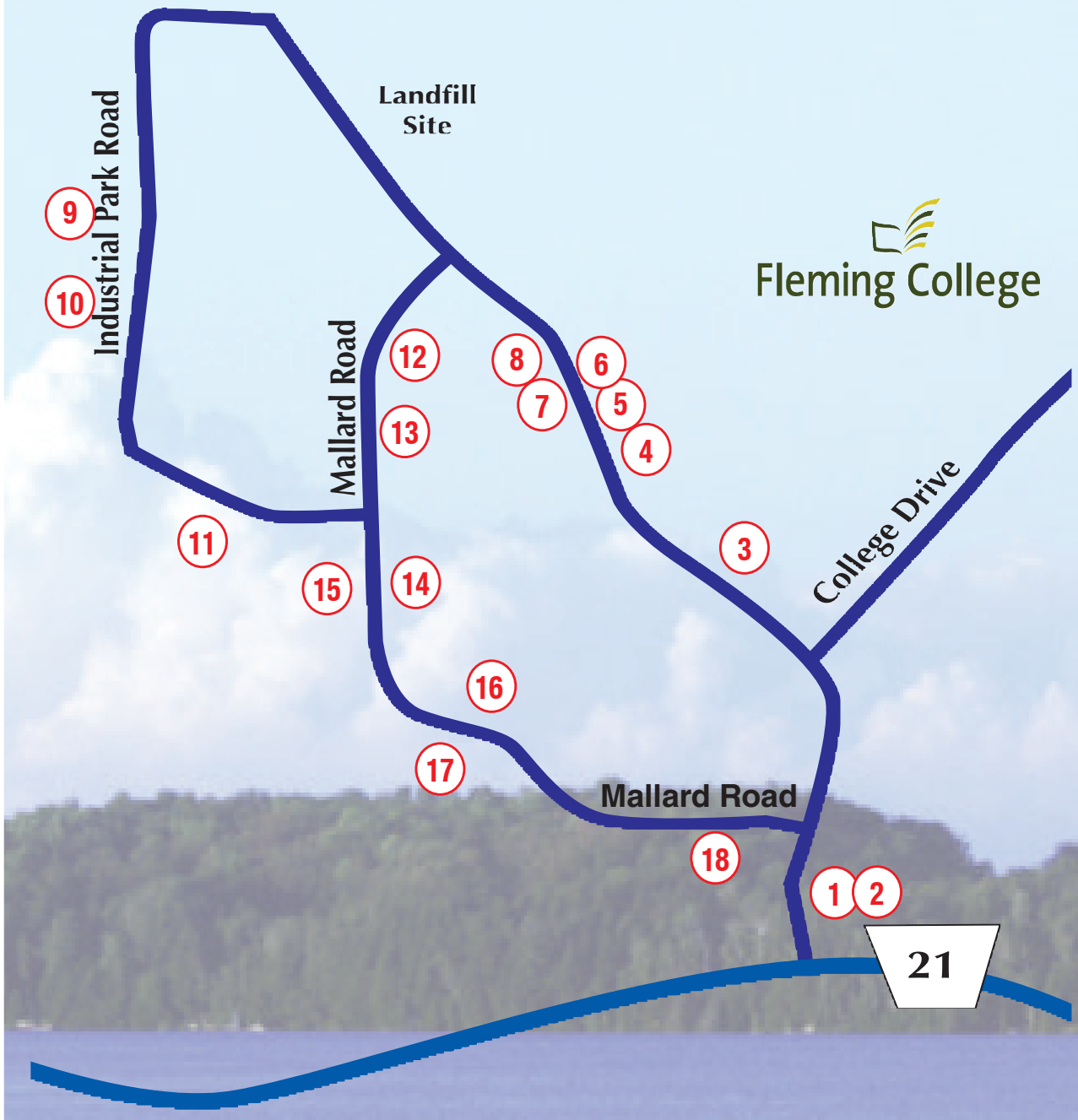

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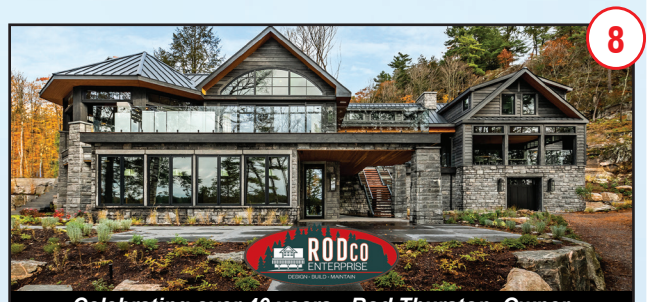

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Nature in your backyard

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View from Haliburton Lake Road on a beautiful day. /Submitted by Yale Brick

A song sparrow perches in a tree. /Submitted by Jill Moulton

A snapping turtle pictured on the Minden Boardwalk. /Submitted by Irv Handler

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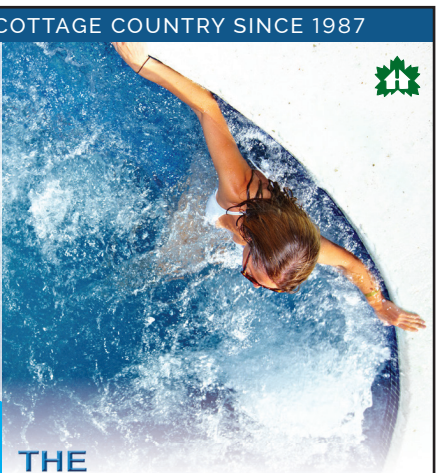

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Fundraising Yard Sale. **Saturday May 18, 8:30 am - 12:30 pm. West Guilford Baptist Church**, 1063 Nila Road. Hot dogs and pop will also be sold. All proceeds to the Haliburton 4C's Food Bank.

Yard Sale: **1289 Hunter Creek Road**, Minden. May 17 and 18, 10am - 4pm. Collectibles, Jewellery, yarn, prints, baskets, craft and school supplies, clothing, baby items, disney tapes, computer table, and more. Nothing over $10.

Huge yard Sale **May 18, 19, 20** at **10019 County Road 503** west of Gooderham. Tools, garden cultivator, paddle boat, gas & electric grass trimmers, hedge trimmer, sinks, electric trolling motor, toys, puzzles, crafts, books, Christmas & Halloween & much more. 9 till 6 daily.

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The meeting will be held using Zoom on Monday, June 24th, 2024 @ 7:00pm.

You must register at haliburtonlandtrust.ca to receive login information and meeting details.

Members in good standing 30 days prior may vote. To renew your membership, become a member, or register, visit our website.

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Jan. 1, 2023 - Dec. 31, 2023

Baumgartner Realty Group		Other Haliburton Brokerages
Days on Market		**Days on Market**
38 Days		49 Days
Average Sale Price		**Average Sale Price**
$888,979		$794,371
List to Sale Price Ratio		**List to Sale Price Ratio**
99.80%		97.78%

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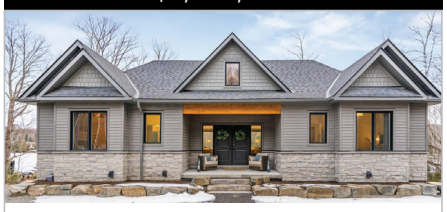

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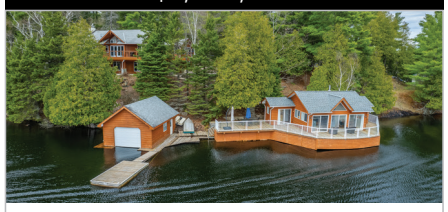

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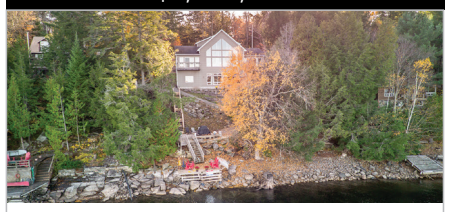

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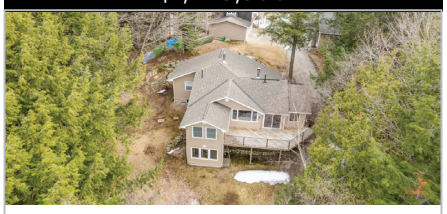
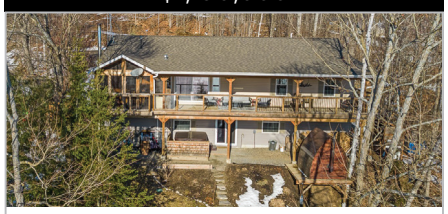
MLS# 40544097

HALIBURTON LAKE
$1,245,500



MLS# 40561873

WENONA LAKE
$1,190,000

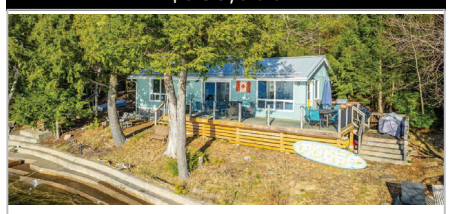


MLS# 40547278

HALIBURTON LAKE
$999,000

MLS# 40424313

KENNISIS LAKE
$985,000

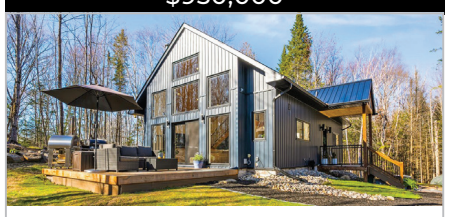


MLS# 40552668

HALBIEM CRESCENT
$979,000

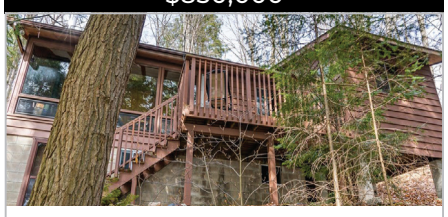
MLS# 40572051

EAGLE LAKE
$950,000



MLS# 40572057

KENNISIS LAKE
$830,000

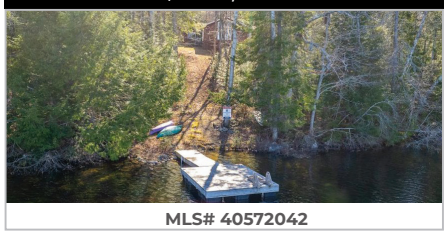


MLS# 40552668

KUSHOG LAKE
$749,000

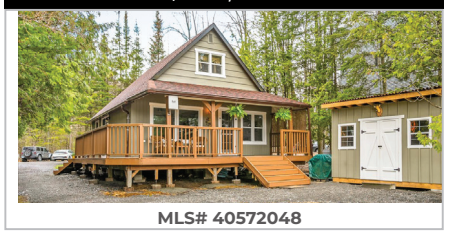
MLS# 40568971

HUDSON LAKE
$ 685,000



MLS# 40572042

SHARON LAKE
$639,900



MLS# 40572048

REDSTONE LAKE
$450,000

MLS# 40585667

BETHEL ROAD
$195,000

MLS# 40476956

GRACE RIVER ROAD
$185,000

MLS# 40549856

GRACE RIVER ROAD
$179,000

MLS# 40549838

LAKEVIEW ST.
$159,900

MLS# 40538935

ELEPHANT LAKE RD
$154,950

MLS# 40578408

CHANDLER POINT
$68,500

MLS# 40578158

ELEPHANT LAKE RD
$48, 925

MLS# 40579751

ELEPHANT LAKE RD
$45,995

MLS# 40579817

KASHAGAWIGAMOG LAKE
$1,450,000

MLS# 40485914

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Minden welcomes 53 new VIPs

An unique graduation ceremony took place at the Archie Stouffer Elementary School on Wednesday evening (April 18) as the students in grade six received their diplomas for the V.I.P. Program.

Principal Stuart Baker who opened the ceremony explained to the near capacity audience that the "Values Influences and Peers" program was a pilot project initiated by the Haliburton Board of Education and the Minden Detachment of the Ontario Provincial Police. He noted that the project was aimed at the grade six students because "we place a lot of emphasis on guidance programs in the early years".

Constable Gary Chapman, who has participated in the project since its inception, explained to the assembly that the program was begun two years ago by an OPP constable and a school principal in Thunder Bay. The guidance program was modelled after a project called Operation Awareness that was being taught in the schools in Duluth, Minnesota.

(more on page 2)

Members of the Archie Stouffer VIP class proudly display their new T-shirts. Instructors seen at the rear, Glen Carter, left and Constable Gary Chapman, also received shirts with their own special notations.

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The Times

Minden

Number 1104 25¢

Wednesday, April 25, 1984

The World Famous
ROCKCLIFFE
Tavern **Minden**
This Week:
David Archibald
Next Week:
Cat's Pyjamas

County historical society formed

A county-wide historical society has been formed. The organization came into being Thursday evening at a special meeting held at the Anson, Hindon and Minden council chambers.

The first order of business for the organization was the selection of a board of directors. Frank Wallace of Minden was chosen as the group's chairman. Other members of the board included Dr. Carl Hartwick, Ross Carver, Roy Windover, Bob Davis, Bob Wiltshire and Godfrey Tyler. Stanhope Reeve Harry Davis, who has spearheaded the formation of the society, noted that the executive committee did not include any elected politicians in an effort to maintain a non-partisan outlook on projects.

The main purpose behind the formation of the society was to provide a lobby group for the Kanawa International Canoe Museum. Over the past few years, it had been suggested that the unique collection of canoes and watercraft might be moved out of the county. Mr. Davis suggested that by forming the society, the county would be able to mount an organized campaign to ensure the facility remains in this area.

Haliburton County Warden and Anson, Hindon and Minden Reeve Lyle McKnight, who will serve as an ex officio member of the society, invited the new executive to make a presentation to the county councillors. He suggested the group should appear before the council to explain the purpose of the organization and to gain the support of all municipalities in the county.

The invitation was accepted by the new society's directors, with Roy Windover being selected to make the presentation to the county meeting.

Before the meeting ended, Gary Kenney, who is familiar with log construction, offered an analysis of the present structure. He pointed out that the structure, though sound, is deficient in a number of areas. Kenney noted that the building is not insulated and that some of the logs used in the original construction have suffered deterioration. A portion of the rear section of the museum is uncompleted.

When asked if it would be possible to move the building to another location, Kenney said it would be a costly undertaking. He suggested that the cost would be so high as to make it economically unfeasible. He also suggested that considering the size and number of exhibits currently in the collection, any new structure would have to be 50% larger than the present building.

One member of the audience suggested that perhaps the comments and questions were somewhat premature, since ownership of the collection and the buildings remains with its founder, Kirk Wipper. It was suggested that before any decisions or discussion on the future of the museum could be carried out in a meaningful way, that Mr.

(more on page 2)

Christians gathered at Skyline Park in Haliburton at 7 o'clock Sunday morning for a special Easter "Sonrise Service." The worshippers took part in the ecumenical service led by ministers of various denominations in the community.

Change clocks this weekend

Spring forward and fall back ... that is the best way to remember which way to move your clocks and watches this weekend as the province changes to Daylight Saving Time.

Readers are reminded to move their clocks ahead one hour Saturday night before retiring. While the change will mean it will be darker during the early hours of the morning, the benefit comes after supper, as an extra hour of daylight will be available for outdoor activities.

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